

Bringing the County Closer to You!

Marc Elrich, County Executive Andrew Kleine, Chief Administrator Officer Catherine Matthews, Director Linda Moore, UCAB Chair

#### January 24, 2020

Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Monday, January 27 7:00pm Kramer Upcounty Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown

**Topic:** "Changes in Montgomery County Government"
Guest: Andrew Kleine, Chief Administrative Officer
Offices of the County Executive

All board and committee meetings are open to the public!

Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, please call 240-777-8040 or email a request to catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov.

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## Montgomery Drivers Could Be Affected by Temporary Weekend Closures on ICC Jan. 24-27 and Jan. 31-Feb. 3 for MDTA Tolling System Upgrades

Montgomery County drivers who use the Intercounty Connector (ICC/MD 200) could be affected by temporary weekend road closures Jan. 24-27 and Jan. 31-Feb. 3 as the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) implements its next generation electronic tolling systems. Part of those upgrades will include replacing existing tolling hardware and software at all toll facilities.

Beginning 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24, and continuing until 5 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 27, westbound traffic on the ICC/MD 200 will be detoured at New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650). The detour route will direct motorists north on New Hampshire Avenue to Norbeck Road, west to Layhill Road (MD 182) and south on Layhill Road back to westbound ICC/MD 200.

The following weekend, from 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31, until 5 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 3, eastbound ICC/MD 200 traffic will be detoured at Layhill Road (MD 182). The detour route will direct motorists north on Layhill Road to Norbeck Road, east on Norbeck Road to New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) and south on New Hampshire Avenue back to eastbound ICC/MD 200.

During both weekends, motorists will be tolled as a single trip when traveling the detour routes. The temporary detours are needed due to the amount of equipment and work crews involved and to help ensure the safety of workers and motorists.

Moving forward, MDTA plans to have crews working on one gantry in each direction of the ICC per weekend. MDTA will issue additional traffic advisories as work progresses and schedules are finalized. Work will be scheduled during off-peak hours, including weekends and overnight.

To sign up for email and text alerts or view real-time traffic camera images on MDTA roadways, visit <a href="mailto:mdta.maryland.gov">mdta.maryland.gov</a>. Real-time updates on major incidents can be followed on Twitter at twitter.com/TheMDTA.

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#### Montgomery County Recreation is Hiring; Job Fairs Scheduled

Montgomery County Recreation is hiring part-time seasonal employees to work during the 2020 summer season, and the department will host two more job fairs in January and February. Dozens of applicants attended the first job fair, which was held on Jan. 9, at the Mid-County Community Recreation Center in Silver Spring.

Available positions include lifeguards, camp counselors, camp directors and mainstream companions. Part-time/seasonal pay is competitive at \$13 an hour and increases based on experience. Applicants must be at least 15 years of age. Bilingual applicants are encouraged to apply.

The upcoming job fairs are scheduled at the following locations and dates:

- Wednesday, Jan. 29, 3 7 p.m. at the Plum Gar Community Recreation Center, 19561 Scenery Dr.,
   Germantown. (Rescheduled from Jan. 7, because of weather cancellation.)
- Wednesday, Feb. 26, 5 8 p.m. at the Gwendolyn Coffield Community Recreation Center, 2450 Lyttonsville Rd., Silver Spring.

Applicants should bring their resumes, come dressed for success and be prepared to discuss their experience. The department is looking for dedicated, hardworking and motivated individuals. Job applications will be available at the job fairs, and applicants should note these job fairs are for not job or location specific. Applicants may attend any job fair regardless of where they are seeking to work in the County.

As a condition of employment, applicants will be required to pass a criminal background investigation. The investigation will include state, federal and sex offender background checks.

For questions about the job fairs, contact recreation.customerservice@montgomerycountymd.gov.

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# Briefing on Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety and Vision Zero Tuesday, January 28 Council Office Building 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville

The County Council will hold a briefing on pedestrian and bicycle safety and the implementation of the County's <u>Vision Zero</u> plan during its afternoon meeting on January 28. The Council meeting will include representatives from the Maryland State Highway Administration, Montgomery County's Department of Transportation, the Montgomery County Police Department, Montgomery County Park and Planning, and Montgomery County Public Schools. Vision Zero is a multinational road traffic safety project that aims to achieve a highway system with no fatalities or serious injuries involving road traffic.

The Council is also planning a Vision Zero town hall meeting on pedestrian and bicycle safety issues on Sunday, February 9 at 2:00pm in Wheaton to hear directly from residents about the safety issues they are encountering on roadways and sidewalks and in crosswalks located in Montgomery County. So far in 2020 there have been three pedestrian deaths, and two of these deaths occurred this week on Maryland Route 355 (Rockville Pike).

More details about the February 9 Vision Zero town hall meeting in Wheaton will be provided as they become available.

The Council staff report on the Vision Zero briefing is now available on the Council's web page.

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### Charter Review Commission Seeks Public Input (see dates and locations listed below)

The county's Charter Review Commission seeks public input and invites residents to participate in any of the five listening sessions scheduled through March 23. The purpose of the sessions is to discuss the structure of the Montgomery County Council.



The sessions will address whether the size of the Council and its make-up should be changed or remain the same. Currently the Council has nine members made up of five district Councilmembers and four at-large Councilmembers.

The County Charter is the constitution of the Montgomery County government. The County Council with the County Executive's input appoints an eleven-member, bi-partisan, <a href="Charter Review Commission">Charter Review Commission</a> to study the County Charter. The Commission must report to the Council in May with recommendations for possible revisions to the charter.

The listening sessions will be held at the following times and locations:

Bethesda: Sunday, Jan. 26 from 2:30pm to 4:00pm Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center Conference Room West-A 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda

Burtonsville: Saturday, Feb. 8 from 3:30pm to 5:00pm Marilyn J. Praisner Library Meeting Room #2 14910 Old Columbia Pike. Burtonsville

Olney: Saturday, Feb. 22 from 2:30pm to 4:00pm Olney Community Library Meeting Room #2 3500 Olney-Laytonsville Road, Olney

Rockville: Wednesday, March 4 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm Council Office Building 3rd Floor Hearing Room 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville

Germantown: Monday, March 23 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm Upcounty Regional Services Center Conference Room A 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown

Anyone interested in attending a session and providing comments may sign up <a href="here">here</a>. Attendees who have a prepared statement, which is not necessary for testimony at these sessions, are asked to please bring a courtesy copy to share with the Commission.

Members of the public also are encouraged to submit any comments to the Charter Review Commission in writing at charterreview.commission@montgomerycountymd.gov.

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#### Looking for Librarians!!!

MULTIPLE OPENINGS for Librarian I, Librarian II, & Senior Librarian. Duties include assisting library customers, facilitating programs, assisting with activities, and promoting library services to the community.

How to Apply: WORK4MCG.com & search IRC40007 - IRC42247 - IRC42248.

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## Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich Proposes Record Level of Funding for Affordable Housing And Highlights Accomplishments in First State of the County Address

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich delivered his first 'State of the County' address last week, telling a packed crowd at the Silver Spring Civic Building that despite challenges the County is facing, much has been accomplished in his first year in office and a clear direction has been established to move forward. He also unveiled his proposal to remedy the County's lack of affordable housing with a record spending initiative.

In his address, County Executive Elrich said that his administration will continue to build on the seven priorities he established upon taking office in December 2018:

- Thriving Youth and Families
- A Growing Economy
- A Greener County
- Easier Commutes
- A More Affordable and Welcoming County for a lifetime
- Safe Neighborhoods, and
- An Effective, Sustainable Government

County Executive Elrich stressed that the County must continue to work to improve in areas and must not be satisfied in areas in which it has been successful.

The video of his address can be viewed at https://youtu.be/7gAWFKaarHU.

First-ever Montgomery County Government Employee Survey Indicates High Levels of Job Satisfaction and Key Areas for Improvement

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https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press Detail.aspx?Item ID=23781

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#### MDOT SHA District 3 Major Construction and Maintenance Planned Lane Closure Update for Prince George's and Montgomery Counties For the Period Beginning January 23, 2020

Visit <a href="https://www.roads.maryland.gov/OC/D3\_LANE\_CLOSURES.pdf">https://www.roads.maryland.gov/OC/D3\_LANE\_CLOSURES.pdf</a> to see this week's MDOT SHA District 3 major planned construction-related lane closure update. Please feel free to share this information with members of your e-mail or list-serv groups, visitors to your website and your social media followers.

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#### RespectFest!

Sunday, March 29 1:00pm – 4:00pm Wheaton Community Recreation Center 11701 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton

**Choose Respect** is an initiative with the Montgomery County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council under the Office of the Sheriff. The initiative aims to celebrate healthy relationships and spread awareness and prevention education about dating violence. A conference has been held or the past 10 years and a decision was made to have a festival this year instead.

The target audience includes middle and high school students and parents. There will be activity booths to engage students with games and activities about dating violence, a resource fair, performances, yoga and self-defense demos, food, raffles and the announcement of you video contest. The whole festival is <u>free</u>, and students can earn SSL hours for attending.

Currently, the video contest is open. Middle and high school students can submit a 60 second video on dating violence for a chance to win \$1,000!

The website is https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/fjc/chooserespect/ and you can download our flyers there as well.



#### **ENTER BY FEBRUARY 28, 2020**

- Create a 60-second video about dating violence prevention and getting help.
- English or Spanish entries accepted
- Winners will be announced at RespectFest
- Click here for all the rules and to submit your entry.

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'Senior Planet Montgomery' Technology Classes Designed to Help Those 60-and-Over Live Better in a Variety of Ways Opens Registration for Winter Classes That Begin Monday, Feb. 3

https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press Detail.aspx?ltem ID=23805

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## Registration is Now Open for the County's Office of Human Rights Maryland Civil Rights Educational Freedom Experience Saturday, April 18 through Sunday, April 26

Registration is open for the 2020 Maryland Civil Rights Educational Freedom Experience. This annual historic civil-rights bus tour retraces the Freedom Trail, the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the Greensboro sit-ins, voting rights, and other significant events of the Civil Rights Movement.

The nine-day bus tour will leave Rockville on Saturday, April 18 and return Sunday, April 26. The tour will travel to Greensboro, NC; Atlanta, GA; Birmingham, Montgomery and Selma, AL; Memphis and Clinton, TN; Little Rock, AR and Jackson, MS to retrace the steps of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks and many other civil-rights heroes. Highlights on the tour include the Birth Home Museum of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; the new National Center for Civil and Human Rights; the Civil Rights Memorial Museum; the International Civil Rights Center and Museum; the Rosa Parks Museum; the Freedom Rides Museum; the new Legacy and Peace and Justice Museums; the National Voting Rights Museum; the famed Sixteenth Street Baptist Church; the historic Edmund Pettus Bridge; the Little Rock Central High School; Emmett Till Museum; Green McAdoo School; Alex Haley Freedom Village; Medgar Evers' Home and the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel.

The tour features special guests Joan Mulholland and Willie King who will provide personal accounts of their experiences during the civil rights movement to bring the history to life from two who witnessed and participated in the events. Mulholland is a 1960's Freedom Rider and King transcribed Martin Luther King's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail.

Payment is due by March 15. Event details, including registration form, itinerary and general information is available <u>here.</u> Early registration is encouraged as this trip usually fills. Credit cards and checks are accepted as payment for registration.

The trip includes travel on a deluxe motor coach with Wi-Fi, hotel accommodations, multiple tour and museum admissions, some meals, snacks and more. *The tour is available to County and non-county residents.* 

For more information, contact Beverly Marshall in the Office of Human Rights at Beverly.marshall@montgomerycountymd.gov or 240-777-8479.

## County Offers Free Tax Help for Eligible Residents Available now through April 15

County residents earning \$56,000 or less can schedule an appointment for free tax preparation through the Community Action Agency's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Free tax assistance is available now through April 15, 2020 at sites throughout the county: Gaithersburg (Mondays), Silver Spring (Tuesdays), Rockville (Wednesdays), East County and Germantown (Thursdays), and Wheaton (Fridays).

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To make an appointment, visit montgomerycountymd.gov/cashback, call 240-777-1123 or call 3-1-1. TTY users, please call MD Relay (711). To request special accommodations, call 240-777-1123 at least three business days in advance of appointment. For more information, visit montgomerycountymd.gov/cashback.

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#### New Safety Law

Beginning July 1, 2019, a new law in Montgomery County now requires many existing single-unit, two-unit and townhouse dwellings to have Carbon Monoxide Alarms located outside sleeping areas and on every level of a home. Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms are designed to emit an alarm when high levels of CO are detected but before they reach life-threatening levels. For more info, visit the Montgomery County, MD Fire and Rescue Service Blog English - Spanish

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#### Census Seeks Employees



The 2020 U.S. Census Bureau continues seeking employees to work as enumerators next year. The hiring and training processes are currently taking place.

The Census Bureau is looking to employ an estimated 600 people in Montgomery County. Full-time and part-time positions are available. Salaries start at \$21 per hour and a background check is required.

Interested candidates can apply online at www.2020census.gov/jobs.

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MCAEL Holds 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spelling Bee for Adults Thursday, April 23 6:30pm - 8:30pm Montgomery College 7995 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring

It's happening - the 7th Annual Grown-Up Spelling Bee! You know the drill --- local teams compete for the MCAEL Honeycomb trophy confirming their status as the county's best spellers! Think you have what it takes to win? Sponsor a team - info here.

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For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council

Planning Board <a href="http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/news\_releases">http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/news\_releases</a>

#### Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library</a>

Department of Recreation <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec</a>

Department of Transportation <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html</a>

Department of Environmental Protection <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep">http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep</a>

Department of Permitting Services <a href="https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dps">https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dps</a>
Montgomery County Volunteer Center <a href="http://www.montgomeryserves.org">https://www.montgomeryserves.org</a>

Office of Community Partnerships https://montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships

Commission for Women <a href="https://montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw">https://montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw</a>

Parks Department <a href="http://www.montgomeryparks.org/">http://www.montgomeryparks.org/</a> Planning Department <a href="http://montgomeryplanning.org/">http://montgomeryplanning.org/</a>

Department of Health and Human Services www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs